

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

Investigation by the Department of	)	
Telecommunications and Energy on its own	)	
motion, pursuant to G.L. c. 159,	)	D.T.E. 02-8
§§ 12 and 16, into the collocation security	)	
policies of Verizon New England, Inc. d/b/a	)	
<u>Verizon Massachusetts</u>	)	

**COMMENTS OF QWEST COMMUNICATIONS CORP. IN SUPPORT OF MOTION  
TO SUSPEND CURRENT LITIGATION PROCEEDINGS AND TO ESTABLISH AN  
INDUSTRY TASK FORCE ON NETWORK SECURITY  
IN LIEU OF DIVISIVE LITIGATION**

Qwest Communications Corporation (“Qwest”) supports the Joint Petitioners’ Motion to Suspend Current Litigation Proceedings and to Establish an Industry Task Force on Network Security in Lieu of Divisive Litigation. Qwest agrees that a task force – properly structured -- is a much more constructive approach to addressing the Department’s serious concerns regarding security than litigating over the very narrow and poorly supported proposals set forth in Verizon’s testimony. Qwest agrees with the Joint Petitioners that Verizon’s testimony and proposals do little, if anything, to identify the security risks of terrorism or sabotage or address those risks in an effective manner. Thus, a task force including representatives from all carriers is more likely to produce an industry consensus as to the best and most efficient methods to ensure an overall secure network.

Qwest also agrees that the Department, if feasible, should grant the Joint Petitioners’ request for expedited ruling on the Motion, given the discovery timetable set by the Hearing Officer under which intervenor testimony is due May 10, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

QWEST COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

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Thomas W. Snyder  
Attorney for Qwest Communications Corporation  
1801 California Street  
Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 672-2841

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